Mr. GRATTAN will be the subject of the next Parliamentary Article.

Mr. SHARPE's LETTER to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of KENT and SUSSEX, next week.

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THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, DECEMBER 19.

ADVICES have been received by Government in the course of yesterday, stating, that the fortress of Dantzic had capitulated, but under such terms, similar to those that were offered at Dresden, that the Commander-in-Chief had refused to ratify them. From the same source, it is understood, that Sir THOMAS GRAHAM had arrived on the opposite coast; that DAVOUST, at the approach of the CROWN PRINCE, had shut himself up in Hamburgh, and that Gertruydenburgh was in possession of the Russians.

But the most curious piece of intelligence, which was brought forward in the course of the day, and which furnished a Ministerial Paper with one of those suspicious flourishes of the trumpet, called Third Editions, was an assertion, on the authority of a letter from Paris, said to be written by the son of a Merchant in this country, and to be now in the possession of Lord CASTLEREAGH,—that the Parisians had mounted the White Cockade, and announced their intention (rather an anti-climax after the cockade) of re-calling the BOURBONS. Although this is one of those pieces of intelligence, calculated from their possibility to confound people, and from their nature to make a very convenient noise, we have no hesitation in saying we do not believe it. In the first place, on turning from the leading article of the paper, in which it is announced, to the more specific mention of it under the paragraph headed Third Edition, we find that the date of the letter is altered from *Paris* to ROTTERDAM;—a most enormous difference;—secondly, it comes from a quarter, which has at least put forth as much false intelligence in this way as true;—and thirdly, however we may chuse to disguise the matter at home, in behalf of a family certainly unfortunate, it is well known that the BOURBONS are neither popular in France, nor have deserved to be so. The thing, in short, is possible; but till the intelligence come from better quarters, with less inconsistency, and with more evidence altogether, both internal and external, we can pay no more credit to it than to a newsman's horn.

The following is the passage to which we allude:—

"The following has just reached us. It is an exact copy of an Extract from the Letter whence we made the statement in our first paragraph.

"*Rotterdam, Dec.* 14.

"As I was going to the Post-Office with this letter, news arrived from the Frontiers, that the Parisians had taken the White Cockade, and that it was their intention to recal immediately the BOURBONS. I heard the news from the Secretary of Prince NARASKIN, the Russian General in Holland."

"The original letter, containing this important intelligence, is in the hands of Lord CASTLEREAGH."—*Sun.*

Dispatches have been received by Government from Lord WELLINGTON, dated the 5th instant, which are said to state that there is no prospect of resuming offensive operations until the month of March. A report prevails, that they also notice a serious disagreement between the Noble Commander in Chief and General MINA, but we cannot answer for its correctness. It is said that this Gallant Spaniard, who so lately distinguished himself at Sarragossa, and who has been so eminently conspicuous for his services during the whole progress of the war, in some incursions with his Guerilla party, had committed those depredations on the inhabitants of France which were inconsistent with the Public Orders and Proclamations of the Generalissimo, and that for such acts of disobedience he had been put under arrest.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Bergen-op-zoom (which is still in the hands of the French) is esteemed one of the best fortified towns in Europe. The casemates are sufficient to lodge 20,000 men, and are dry and healthy. The mines are bricked over, and intersect in every direction, branching from the chamber entirely under the glacis. The magazines for ammunition and provision are deemed more ample and secure than those in any other fortress; and no place, Nimeguen excepted, has the advantage of such good and abundant water. The subterraneous works, the circumference of which is above two English miles, render the approach most difficult; and when the Scheldt is open, succour may be thrown in with every tide.

His Excellency Sir R. J. WOODFORD, in the third meeting of the Council of Trinidad, after his arrival, informed that Honourable Body, that they could no longer sit as his Majesty's Council: he having, however unpleasant to himself, received the PRINCE REGENT's instructions to dissolve them, in consequence of their having sanctioned or recommended the suspension of Judge SMITH from his appointments, of which his Royal Highness disapproved.

It was lately announced, that DES HAYES, the dancer, had been marched off *in irons*, as a conscript, to join the French Army. We are informed that there is not one word of truth in the statement. The story of his being marched off *in irons*, indeed, rendered the account altogether suspicious; but the government papers, who put it forth, are not very nice in their fabrications, when their object is to blacken the enemy and to delude their readers. They know well, however, the taste of the people who read and patronize their journals.—DES HAYES is now performing in Italy.

COPPER COIN.—The general idea is, that nothing but what is called the *new* halfpence will now pass; but in fact, whoever refuses the real old Tower halfpence may be informed against and made liable to a penalty for every offence. Nothing but counterfeit coin should be refused, and which only it is the intention of Government to put a stop to.

EVANGELICAL FOLLY.—At a sale at Nuldrel's farm, in Sussex, the property of the late Mr. HUNTINGDON, so eager were his followers to possess some *relic*, that the first *lot*, *a waggon*, was actually knocked down at *twelve hundred pounds!* which sum was immediately paid over to the clerk.

NEGROES.—A paper, by Dr. WELLS, was read a short time since, before the Royal Society, giving an account of a woman, who, though her parents were white people, was born in Suffolk, with her right shoulder, arm, and hand, of a darker black than the colour of a negro, which was attributed to the mother's trampling upon a live lobster when pregnant of her. The Doctor agrees, with WISLOW, that the cuticle of negroes is black; and from this curious case infers—that the black colour of negroes does not prove them to be a distinct race of animals from the whites. That the colour cannot be ascribed to the action of the sun merely, for those parts of the negro which are exposed to the sun, are not so black as those which are covered. That whites are not able to bear a warm climate so well as the negroes, and that they are liable to many diseases in such a situation, from which negroes are free. The same consequences are attendant upon the black in a cold climate. That the black colour of the negro is merely the sign of some difference in constitution, which enables them to bear a hot climate. If a family of white men were carried to the torrid zone, some would thrive, while others decayed, and those would exhibit the sign of such a constitution, and become dark, and the darker they were the better they would resist the climate, till at length they degenerated into negroes. The contrary would happen to negroes transported to cold climates. Dr. WELLS also conceives, that the woolly hair and deformed features of negroes are connected with a want of intellect.

THE CROUP.—A prize of 12,000 francs was offered in 1807, by the French Government, to that Physician who should produce the best Memoir on the disease, called the Croup: two have shared the prize, being of equal merit; three are distinguished as extremely honourable to their authors; and the sixth Memoir is marked by the proposal of a remedy that is said by the writer to be a specific in this malady, and in the hooping-cough. It is liver of sulphur alkalized, a sulphate of pot-ash, recently prepared and brownish. It is usually given mixed with honey, and sometimes with sugar. The dose, from the attack of the croup to the decided diminution of the disorder, is ten grains, morning and evening, to be diminished as the disorder abates; and, towards the close, the morning dose only to be given. The mixture of sulphate and honey to be made at the moment of using. Young children will suck it off the end of a finger; but it may be given in a spoonful of milk, or of syrup thinned with water, or as a bolus; grown children take it best in this form. It usually relieves in two days; but it must be continued till the cure is completed, and often beyond that period, for fear of relapse.

A serpent, of the Boa Constrictor species, was, in February last, killed in the neighbourhood of Reduit, Isle of France, by a Mr. FLEUROT, who, with a friend, was angling near a cascade in the river of Plain Wilhelms. The dogs accompanying the party first discovered the reptile concealed in a cavity of the rock; and four charges of small shot were fired at him, before he became crippled, and could be drawn by six slaves from his lurking place. He proved to be 14 feet 6 inches long, 14 inches thick, and weighed 184lb. When opened, the stomach was found to contain *several animals, half digested, such as monkies, &c.* This reptile is believed to have been introduced on the island by a ship from India, which was stranded in 1801 on the shore, near six miles from the river where it was killed.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

On Wednesday the Princess CHARLOTTE visited the Princess of WALES for the first time this season, and her first visit to her Royal Mother's new house. The Princess CHARLOTTE arrived in Connaught-place, soon after four o'clock, where she was received by her Royal Mother in the most affectionate manner, who conducted her over the house. Her Royal Highness particularly admired the Chinese room and the library, although the latter is by no means finished. It is fitting up in a very novel and peculiar style. The Chinese room is exactly the same as that which was in the Princess of WALES's house, at Blackheath, the materials for which have been removed to Connaught-place. At a quarter past five o'clock the Princesses sat down to dinner. At seven the Princess CHARLOTTE took leave of her Royal Mother, and returned to Warwick House.—*Morning Chronicle.*

There is to be a most splendid entertainment given at Carlton House on the Birth-day of the Princess CHARLOTTE, when she comes of full age, if her Royal Highness were Heir Apparent to the Crown, and consequently may be regarded as of full age being Heir Presumptive. It is expected, that notwithstanding the adjournment of Parliament, all the principal Nobility of the United Kingdom will make it a point to be present, to pay their respects to their future Sovereign. The preparations making for the *Fête* are of the most sumptuous kind, and it is believed, that it is only the commencement of a series of *Fêtes*, which will terminate in the marriage of the illustrious Personage with the Hereditary Prince of ORANGE. An union that may be the means of establishing, not merely a barrier to the Continental Powers against France, but a security to England against the revival of that system of interdict on our Commerce, which has been so severely felt in the present war. This projected alliance will, of course, give rise to much and very serious discussion; but in all Europe, where could there be found so suitable a match for the Heir Presumptive of England, as the Heir Apparent of the Netherlands? And what countries could be so naturally or so beneficially connected?—*Morning Chronicle.*

The Princess CHARLOTTE of WALES, it is expected, will spend her Christmas with the QUEEN and PRINCESSES at Windsor. It is in contemplation to make Berkeley-house the future residence of her Royal Highness.

CITY.

On Thursday, a Court of Common Council was held at Guildhall. The Prince Regent's answer to the City Address was inserted on the journals.—A Petition, signed by upwards of 2000 householders, complaining of the nuisance arising from the conduct of prostitutes in the public streets, and praying the Court to adopt some measures as a remedy, was referred to a Committee for consideration.—Mr. QUIN, in a speech of considerable length, brought forward the following motion:—"That it be referred to the Committee for General Purposes, to prepare a Petition to the House of Commons, praying that the Act of 5th Eliz. cap. 4. subjecting persons to penalties for exercising trades to which they have not served an apprenticeship, may remain in force, notice having been given in the said House, by Mr. Serjeant Onslow, of a motion to repeal the same."—After a long debate, it was referred to the said Committee to consider the expediency of petitioning Parliament on the subject.

ST. MARY'S, NEWINGTON, BURIAL-GROUND.

Walworth, Dec. 13, 1813.

Mr. Examiner,—Business has prevented me from answering the assertion of Mr. *Bund, Rector's Warden of the Parish of St. Mary, Newington*, this week; but in the course of the next I shall certainly answer it. What I asserted in my last letter respecting the *Burial Ground*, I and another Gentleman can assert, *on Oath*, if necessary.

Your's, &c. R.

THE NEW STREET.

Mr. Examiner,—It will probably be in your recollection, that last Session of Parliament a Bill was passed for "Making a more convenient communication from the northern parts of the Metropolis, in the Parish of St. Marylebone, to Charing-cross, in the City of Westminster." Now, Sir, having the "misfortune" to live in a part of the town where it is proposed to make this "convenient communication," mine and many of my neighbours' houses have been several times measured and surveyed, preparatory, as we conceived, to their being valued and pulled down. Some considerable time having elapsed since then, I am led to complain of the state of suspense in which we are kept, whether we are to be driven from our homes and business, and many of us from valuable *local connections*, which, probably, no pecuniary recompence could compensate for, merely for the purpose of giving money and patronage to certain Architects, Surveyors, &c.

I observe the Commissioners are allowed *three years* to decide whether the Act is to be put in execution; and I think, Sir, you will concur with me, that it is not at all "convenient" to those interested to remain so long at an uncertainty.

It is particularly felt by persons having houses, and who wish to let them on lease (of which I know several instances): the constant remark is, "The New Street is *expected* to be formed here, and I certainly will not take a house so situated, as I may have notice to quit immediately on my entering it."

My motive for sending you this was to point out some of the *inconveniences* that are resulting from this Act.

Hoping they will be speedily remedied by the proper authorities, I remain, yours, &c. Old Street.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 159.

COVENT GARDEN.

The Managers of this Theatre, who occasionally affect to be classical, regale us now and then, to prevent a satiety of farce and pantomime, with a fragment of Shakespeare; they strip it indeed of many of its chief beauties; but then to make amends, they supply its mutilations by gorgeous ornament and pompous shews: they avoid almost with religious scrupulousness every play which cannot be converted into a pageant, but bring forward with much pretence any drama that has its proper capabilities of ostentatious spectacle, having first however, by the help of stage retainers, exercised due care to alter the arrangements and improve the dialogue of the antique, old-fashioned dramatist of England's golden age of poetry. Thus "*Antony and Cleopatra*" is acted for the sake of the sea-fight and the funeral procession; and *Coriolanus* is suffered to live on the boards of Covent Garden, because it affords a vehicle for a paltry imitation of a Roman Triumph, though as much like one, as it is like a Lord Mayor's shew. But even in these cases as in several others, it is supposed that Shakespeare cannot please a modern audience, unless some comparatively modern auxiliary be placed at his side; and in one instance Dryden, in another Thomson, are called upon to support the feeble steps of the superannuated bard. We stated on a former occasion what we are not at all disposed to retract, that the association of Dryden with Shakespeare was not unpleasing; but what connection can exist between the simple energy of Shakespeare's accurate and picturesque diction (we talk not now of his luxuriant fancies) and the diffuse, turgid, indistinct verbiage of Thomson, the vivid beauties of whose *Castle of Indolence* can scarcely compensate the tedious declamation of his "*Seasons*" and his dramas. Cloth of frieze is not more distinguishable nor more inferior to cloth of gold, than the verse of Thomson are below the verses of Shakespeare: the most superficial acquaintance with the poets could detect in a moment the patch of fustian wherever it was inserted. The most faulty addition is in the last act, where the Roman mother pleads to her son to shew mercy to his country. Shakespeare, who knew the power of natural eloquence, makes his stern soldier yield to the irresistible force of an appeal filled with pathetic sentiments and impassioned language. This, it is imagined, will not suit the taste of a modern audience, and therefore recourse is had to the despicable stage-expedient of a dagger, unworthy of the calm magnanimity of *Volumnia*, and from which the haughty *Coriolanus* would have turned with disgust, as a mean trick to frighten him into submission. But we thank the Managers that no baser hand has been allowed to touch the character of *Coriolanus*! that stands fresh and living as struck out by the master artist. The value of this image is its truth and distinctness; for its features are unamiable and even repulsive, but they are at once transcripts from nature and history. *Coriolanus* is a barbarian soldier of primitive Rome, and graced only with the barbarian's virtues: he is brave and generous, obeys his mother, and is fond of his wife. It may seem startling to call filial obedience and conjugal fondness mere savage virtues; and though confident of the liberal interpretation of the good, we will not, for want of explanation, subject ourselves to the misrepresentations of the uncandid. We bless then that benevolence of Heaven which has implanted in savage man those ennobling feelings which afford to the weak the never-failing protection of the strong, and display all the useful beauty of chivalry without its trappings and its strut: we revere that omnipotence of heaven which holds up these feelings buoyant and unsubdued by the myriad legions of forms and follies and vices of civilized life, preserving them to stand out as a refuge, and a hope of happiness and grace even amid the most degraded refinements of artificial man. There is however a middle state, neither entirely barbarous nor elaborately polished, in which these instincts are invested with all the dignity of intelligent motives: where the mind chuses to chalk out for itself no other path than that which is dictated by the heart. This is the virtue which makes man estimable, and places him above the horse and the elephant,—this is that improvement of his capabilities, which makes civi-

lization worthy the attention of philosophers and legislators. With this explanation we venture to call these virtues, as displayed in *Coriolanus*, merely savage; for his attentive submissions to his mother seemed unmixed with affection, and shew rather a mind unable to shake off the yoke of superiority which it has been used to bear in its infancy and boyhood, than a heart warm with feelings of tenderness to the parent and cherisher of its existence. And his treatment of his wife exhibits to our minds the mere kindness of sexual impulse, unelevated with any nobler and rational motive. But *Coriolanus* is even less respectable: for he has more than the barbarian's vices: he is fierce and insolent, and on the usual pride of a savage, conscious of his superiority of valour and of strength, is engrafted the unnatural and more hateful haughtiness of the social aristocrat, who abhors his inferiors because their "shoes are cobbled," and because their faces are not washed in the scented waters of spruce and perfumed nobility. Too ignorant to know that the awl of the cobler is as respectable an instrument as the sword of the general (perhaps more so, as it frequently exhibits more skill in its guidance,) too stupid to feel a kindly sensation towards a being worse dressed than himself, he was a nuisance to his country, and only deserved redemption from the Tarpeian Rock, because at the time there might be a chance that his life could be more beneficial to his fellow-citizens than his death. To compensate all this he has courage,—a quality so cheap, that to be without it is a degradation below shame itself, and which it is known may be acquired by the veriest coward in the first week of a campaign. He seems to have been no favourite with SHAKSPEARE, who, when uttering his praises* by the mouth of an admiring soldier, details his faults and ascribes them to such barbarous sources as pride, defect of judgment, and an inaptitude of nature. This was the character which was assigned to Mr. CONWAY to personate, and it would be difficult to find an easier one in the whole range of the drama. The actor has nothing to express but the simplest feelings in their most unmodified state,—fierce bravery, unqualified contempt, and outrageous anger. All that seems requisite is a good powerful voice, and if in addition the actor should possess a fine commanding person which may give dignity to the brutalities of nature, and make the exhibition endurable, the portrait is then complete. How is it then that Mr. CONWAY, who has both these requisites in perfection,—a voice and person fit for the man who alone "flutter'd the Vo'sces in Corioli,"—yet gives a delineation of his hero ineffective and unsatisfactory. We apprehend it is partly because he has not taste sufficient for the skilful modulation of the voice, and partly because he is checked by an exceeding diffidence which prevents him from abandoning himself to the feelings of his dramatic character. We ascribe this want of energetic expression to his timidity, and not as we were at first inclined to his incapability of being roused into feeling; because we have seen instances when his bursts of passion have struck upon our hearts with all the truth of nature, and this particularly in tender scenes. Indeed nothing could be more touching than the first interview with his mother, when she comes to welcome him back to Rome after his victory. The audience indeed, as usual, applauded him most where he least deserved it, when he was noisy and indistinct, breaking the ears with shouting, and devouring the stage with his strides; but we entreat him not to suffer himself to be spoiled by these boisterous plaudits. If he once has recourse to raut, he is undone, and will sink for ever into the lower ranks of his profession: whereas we think him capable of becoming, by anxious study and a proper confidence soon to be acquired, one and no mean ornament of the British Stage.

As to the rest of the actors we have nothing to say, except to beg of Mr. EGERTON that he will look less ferocious: his terrible visage really sometimes seems to portend more than theatric effect. Should he take our advice, we shall regard it as a personal favour, and promise never to write another word about him.

* Scene 7, Act 4.

TABLE-TALK.

Neque ego tamen elinguem hilaritatis consessum faciam. In Mensa vave illud loqui, sed si cum Sobriis, Paucis, Paribus.

PUTEANI *Comus*.

PLAY-HOUSE MEMORANDA.—I once sat in the Pit of Drury-lane Theatre next to a blind man, who, I afterwards learned, was a street musician, well known about London. The play was *Richard the Third*, and it was curious to observe the interest which he took in every successive scene, so far more lively than could be perceived in any of the company around him. At those pathetic interviews between the *Queen* and *Duchess of York*, after the murder of the children, his eyes (or rather the places where eyes should have been) gushed out tears in torrents, and he sat intranced in attention, while every one about him was tittering, partly at him, and partly at the grotesque figures and wretched action of the women, who had been selected by managerial taste to personate those royal mourners. Having no drawback of sight to impair his sensibilities, he simply attended to the scene, and received its unsophisticated impression. *So much the rather her celestial light shone inward.* I was pleased with an observation which he made, when I asked him how he liked Kemble, who played *Richard*. I should have thought (said he) that that man had been reading something out of a book, if I had not known that I was in a play-house.

I was once amused in a different way by a knot of country people who had come to see a play at that same Theatre. They seemed perfectly inattentive to all the best performers for the first act or two, though the piece was admirably played, but kept poring in the play-bill, and were evidently watching for the appearance of one, who was to be the source of supreme delight to them that night. At length the expected actor arrived, who happened to be in possession of a very insignificant part, not much above a mute. I saw their faint attempt at raising a clap on his appearance, and their disappointment at not being seconded by the audience in general. I saw them try to admire and to find out something very wonderful in him, and wondering all the while at the moderate sensation he produced. I saw their pleasure and their interest subside at last into flat mortification, when the riddle was at once unfolded by my recollecting that this performer bore the same name with an actor, then in the acme of his celebrity, at Covent-Garden, but who lately finished his theatrical and mortal career on the other side the Atlantic. They had come to see Mr. C——, but had come to the wrong house.

Is it a stale remark to say, that I have constantly found the interest excited at a play-house to bear an exact in-

verse proportion to the price paid for admission. Formerly, when my sight and hearing were more perfect, and my purse a little less so, I was a frequenter of the upper gallery in the old Theatres. The eager attention, the breathless listening, the anxiety not to lose a word, the quick anticipation of the significance of the scene (every sense kept as it were upon a sharp look out), which are exhibited by the occupiers of those higher and now almost out-of-sight regions (who, going seldom to a play, cannot afford to lose any thing by inattention), suffer some little diminution, as you descend to the lower or two-shilling ranks; but still the joy is lively and unallayed, save by some little *incursion* of *manners*, the expression of it is expected to abate somewhat of its natural liveliness. The oaken plaudits of the trunkmaker would *here* be considered as going a little beyond the line.—In the pit first begins that accursed critical faculty, which, making a man the judge of his own pleasures, too often constitutes him the executioner of his own and others! You may see the *jealousy of being unduly pleased*, the *suspicion of being taken in to admire*; in short, the vile critical spirit, creeping and diffusing itself, and spreading from the wrinkled brows and cloudy eyes of the front row sages and newspaper reporters (its proper residence), till it infects and clouds over the thoughtless, vacant countenance, of John Bull tradesmen, and clerks of counting-houses, who, but for that approximation, would have been contented to have grinned without rule, and to have been pleased without asking why. The sitting next a critic is contagious. Still now and then, a *genuine spectator* is to be found among them, a shopkeeper and his family, whose honest titillations of mirth, and generous chucklings of applause, cannot wait or be at leisure to take the cue from the sour judging faces about them. Haply they never dreamed that there were such animals in nature as critics or reviewers; even the idea of an author may be a speculation they never entered into; but they take the mirth they find as a pure effusion of the actor-folks, set there on purpose to make them fun. I love the unenquiring gratitude of such spectators. As for the Boxes, I never can understand what brings the people there. I see such frigid indifference, such unconcerned spectatorship, such impenetrability to pleasure or its contrary, such being *in the house* and yet not *of it*, certainly they come far nearer the nature of *the Gods*, upon the system of Lucretius at least, than those honest, hearty, well-pleased, unindifferent mortals above, who, from time immemorial, have had that name, upon no other ground than situation, assigned them.

Take the play-house altogether, there is a less sum of enjoyment than used to be. Formerly you might see something like the effect of novelty upon a citizen, his wife and daughters, in the Pit; their curiosity upon every new face that entered upon the stage. The talk of how they got in at the door, and how they were crowded upon some former occasion, made a topic till the curtain drew up. People go too often now-a-days to make their ingress or egress of consequence. Children of seven years of age will talk as familiarly of the performers, aye and as knowingly (according to the received opinion) as grown persons; more than the grown persons in my time. Oh when shall I forget first seeing a play, at the age of five or six? It was *Artaxerxes*. Who played, or who sang in it, I know not. Such low ideas as actors' names, or actors' merits, never entered my head. The mystery of delight was not cut open and dissipated for me by those who took me there. It was *Artaxerxes* and *Arbaces* and *Mandane* that I saw, not Mr. Beard, or Mr. Leoni, or Mrs. Kennedy. It was all enchantment and a dream. No such pleasure has since visited me but in dreams. I was in Persia for the time, and the burning idol of their devotion in the Temple almost converted me into a worshipper. I was awe-struck, and believed those significations to be something more than elemental fires. I was, with Uriel, in the body of the sun.—What should I have gained by knowing (as I should have done, had I been born thirty years later) that that solar representation was a mere painted scene, that had neither fire nor light in itself, and that the royal phantoms, which passed in review before me, were but such common mortals as I could see every day out of my father's window? We crush the faculty of delight and wonder in children, by explaining every thing. We take them to the source of the Nile, and shew them the scanty runnings, instead of letting the beginnings of that seven fold stream remain in impenetrable darkness, a mysterious question of wonderment and delight to ages. ‡

BERNADOTTE.

The circumstances attending the Election of the Crown Prince of Sweden are peculiarly extraordinary, and have been as yet but very imperfectly related in this country. A Provincial Print has not often much to boast of in the way of original communication on state affairs, but we hope never to be inattentive on this point, when proper opportunities present themselves. Of this kind is the following relation, concerning the elevation of Bernadotte to his present dignity, which we have received from an highly respectable and undoubted authority.—A young Swedish officer, named Morrier, who was taken prisoner by the French at the massacre of Lubec, and whose relations were of the first consequence in Sweden, at the time the choice of a fit person to exercise the regal functions was a matter of universal solicitude, voluntarily waited on Bernadotte, and suggested the probability of his election, in the event of his offering himself. At the moment, Bernadotte treated the overture with levity—but Morrier persisting in his assurances, and pledging himself that his vote in the Diet would be seconded by that of his father, and those of several of their confidential friends, Bernadotte at length acquiesced in the invitation. A visit to Bonaparte, for his consent to the measure, became a matter of policy, if not of imperative necessity, and he accordingly proceeded with the utmost rapidity to Paris. Aware of the capricious disposition of Napoleon, and resolving not to be diverted from his object by any opposition he might experience, Bernadotte adopted the precaution of stationing relays of horses from Paris to a considerable distance towards the seat of his intended government. At the interview, Bonaparte expressed his acquiescence in the proposed nomination, and recommended the prompt departure of his gallant auditor.—This was at eleven o'clock at night.—Bernadotte was determined to lose no time in improving his opportunity. He left Paris immediately; and a fortunate circumstance it proved for him and Europe, that his provident calculation on Bonaparte's temper led him to the precautions he had adopted—for, at *seven the next morning*, Bonaparte repented of his hasty decision; and, finding that Bernadotte had taken his departure, he dispatched couriers in every direction, recalling him to Paris; but the other was too far advanced on his journey to allow of their over-

taking him. The rest is known to the world. The Morriers are now in high esteem at Stockholm. It is a circumstance deserving notice, and highly illustrative of the advantages of a correct deportment in life, that Bernadotte's exaltation is principally ascribable to his very honourable and humane conduct at Hanover while under the direction of Bonaparte. Whenever the Imperial mandate arrived, imposing obnoxious regulations or new exactions upon the inhabitants, they were always communicated in terms of unaffected regret, and left to their own uninfluenced determination to conform to in any way the least oppressive to their feelings and their interests. This excellent demeanour, united to his great military abilities, have rendered him extremely popular in that part of Germany; and from the reputation he thus acquired, were the determining motives with those by whose voices he has been called upon to fill his present high appointment.—*Taunton Courier.*

NEWGATE PRISON.

Mr. Examiner,—Ever since I have been an occasional reader of the *Examiner*, I have been impressed with the belief, that every thing you have advanced you conscientiously regarded as being true, and that you are suffering imprisonment for these principles; in this conviction I am strengthened by an acquaintance with those to whom you are personally known. So far I regard you with respect; and, though to your speculations and conclusions I cannot always acquiesce, yet I applaud the motives which so honourably actuate you as a public writer.—In perusing your paper of the 12th inst. I read Mr. Eden's motion in the House of Commons for an inquiry into the state of one of our prisons, Newgate; a motion that does that Gentleman credit. As his speech, together with the report of the City Grand Jury, are before the public, it is unnecessary to repeat the whole: suffice it to say "That the prison is greatly crowded: that by the report of the Jury, and the evidence of Mr. Newman, the keeper, 120 persons are confined in a space allotted to 60 only; but, at the same time, he (Mr. Eden) would do justice to the exertions of that gentleman (Mr. Newman) to do every thing in his power to render the situation of the prisoners less miserable," &c. &c.—In another column of your paper, under the head of "Newgate," is a paragraph expressive of thanks to the City Grand Jury, "that this head-quarters of *filth and misery* has undergone some sort of purification." Then again—"But it is rather curious to see the City Members anxiously rising in defence of an unaccused person. Nobody had said a word against Mr. Newman's management of the prison." Afterwards you say, "it strikes us that something of blame has long attached both to Mr. Newman and the City Authorities. Why has it received the more appropriate name of hog-stye!"—Then you speak of the "Keeper receiving fees, and rolling in riches; and how can such people attend to their duties? Their time must be mainly occupied in collecting and spending their gains."—These, Sir, are serious charges, against the Civil Authorities of the City of London, and the Keeper of a Prison that generally contains between 600 and 700 persons,—debtors, criminals, and State prisoners. It is singular, that when investigation takes place in the House of Commons respecting prisons,—that when Newgate has been spoken of,—so many Members of Parliament should rise and give testimony in favour of such a Keeper as you have designated Mr. Newman to be?—The City Members, the Sheriff, and the Keeper, appear in that paragraph as objects of censure; but, if the statement be true, they deserve something more: the former must be blind, the Sheriff asleep, and the latter ought to be consigned to the pens in Smithfield, and be the Keeper of the Swinish Multitude.—The civil and criminal jurisprudence of the country has lately excited the attention of the learned and the humane, and when our prisons are crowded beyond all former example, owing to the benevolent intention of the Legislature being so long delayed, by an error in the Act of Parliament for the liberation of the debtors, it is due to the relatives of these unfortunates, and to the friends of humanity, to set the matter in a proper light; and that, for the cruelty exercised towards so many of our fellow-creatures under misfortune, there is a free press,—that you will prove the facts, and give the parties due castigation.—I am, Sir, your humble servant, J. B.

St. Martin's-lane, Dec. 15, 1813.

FINE ARTS.

LIMEHOUSE CHURCH.

Mr. Examiner,—Will you allow me to appropriate one of your columns to a few observations on the beautiful painted-glass window, with which Limehouse Church has lately been ornamented, and which has been executed by the same artist (Mr. Backler), to whom you lately alluded, as being engaged on the subject of the *Transfiguration*, executing for St. James's Church? The subject in Limehouse Church is taken from a design of Mr. West's, and is a figure of our Saviour, arrayed in his pontifical robes, and in the act of delivering his heavenly precepts. His countenance is admirably executed; it beams with love and benignity; it is highly expressive of the sweetness of his temper and the mildness of his character. In contemplating him, the pious believer is lost in humble gratitude and holy adoration. Impressed with the wonders of redemption, he sees the Redeemer before him; and the dignity of his appearance, and the inexpressible serenity of his look, at once constrain him to acknowledge of a truth, that this man was the Son of God and the Saviour of Mankind.

This beautiful figure reflects the highest credit upon the talents of Mr. Backler. He appears to have bestowed uncommon pains on his subject, since nothing can surpass the richness of his drapery, and the fineness of his colouring. This Art, in which he promises to excel, if we may judge from the specimen before us, had lain dormant for years, and was, in fact, supposed to have been entirely lost: but experience has proved it to be otherwise; and it only wanted the enterprising genius and industrious habits of man to arouse and exert themselves to revive the knowledge of an Art, with which the altars of our old cathedrals, and the windows of our Gothic churches, were alone thought to be embellished. Limehouse Church,—a fine and spacious building,—may now boast of its painted window, unrivalled, if not in the grandeur and extent of its subject, at least in the richness and beauty of its colouring, by any of the specimens which the consecrated sanctuaries of religion can furnish us in the kingdom. That this Art may meet with encouragement in the country, is by none more ardently wished than by, Sir, your very obedient servant, J. R.

Limehouse, Nov. 1813.

LAW.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

Tuesday, Dec. 14.

PICTURE DEALING.—G. P. TURNER *v.* BEAZLY.

It has been already stated, that this litigation arose from certain dealings in pictures. Sir Gregory Page Turner, a young man of great fortune, being desirous of acquiring a character for taste, purchased the pictures in question for about 12,000*l.* Having discovered that the defendant had purchased these pictures, but a short time before, for less than half the above sum, Sir Gregory refused to pay; and an action at law was commenced, to restrain the proceedings, in which action Sir Gregory filed his injunction bill in Chancery. To this bill there was a demurrer, which was over-ruled, and the defendant was ordered to answer. The answer being put in, a motion was made for leave to amend the bill, but without success. The cause now came on to be heard upon motion, for dissolving the injunction upon the merits disclosed in the answer.—After hearing Counsel on each side,

The LORD CHANCELLOR observed that this case did not come before him upon any of the grounds of hardship and inequality, which, in some instances, came under the jurisdiction of the court to relieve. It was the case of a young man of 25 or 30 years of age contracting to buy pictures at a certain price, and coming before the court to claim its assistance against payment, upon the ground of direct fraudulent circumvention in the transaction. To support this allegation it was stated, that the defendant was a clergyman; that he had heard, that Sir G. P. Turner had a desire to become a purchaser of pictures; and had offered him the pictures in question at a certain price, representing them as works of certain eminent masters: that he had previously purchased these pictures for less than half the money, and that, too, upon credit. Now it might be improper in a clergyman to be dealing in pictures and jewels, &c.; but moral impropriety, supposing such to exist here, was not necessarily a good ground for the interference of the court; as moral fraud and judicial fraud might be quite distinct things. Then, as to his representing these to be the pictures of certain eminent masters, he swore that he believed so, and that they were worth the sum charged for them. In such a case, it was no good ground for the interference of the court that he had purchased them for half the money and upon credit. Of all things in the world, pictures were those in regard to which the *pretium affectionis* was most applicable; and it was not in itself a proof of fraud, that one bought pictures at 5,000*l.* and sold them for 12,000*l.*, or for 20,000*l.* As to purchasing on credit, and selling for ready money, that was no ground of interference. It was also to be observed, that no offer had been made by Sir G. Page Turner to return the pictures. Now, in any view of the case, if the plaintiff refused to pay the price contracted for, the defendant had a right to have his pictures back again; for, being pictures, it was mighty uncertain, whether another amateur might not give the defendant more for them than the price contracted for by Sir G. Page Turner. The injunction could never have been reasonably required to stand, unless, at least, the money which the defendant had paid for them was paid by the plaintiff into court. But in the present instance, he saw no grounds for the court's interference at all,—Injunction dissolved.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Friday, Dec. 17.

GRANT *v.* CROOK.

Mr. SCARLET stated this to be an action by which the plaintiff, who is an upholsterer in Oxford-street, sought to recover from the defendant, an auctioneer, in Skinner-street, the sum of 270*l.* the amount of goods furnished to the order of the defendant, and delivered at No. 11, Seymour-place, which was then fitting up for the reception of a lady of the name of *Somerville*, in whose company the defendant called at the plaintiff's warehouse, and gave orders for the goods. For every part of the articles furnished, and the price of which constituted the amount of the plaintiff's present demand, he should prove the express orders of the defendant himself. He should also prove that the only article ordered by Mrs. Somerville, the lady, who it was understood was to occupy the house, being a carpet for her bed room, had been returned, by the express commands of the defendant, Mr. Crook, as not being good enough to be placed on the floor of Mrs. Somerville's bed room, and was also, by the orders of the defendant, replaced by a fine Brussels carpet, similar to that which had been ordered for the parlour. It was not for the Learned Counsel to guess what was the sort of connection which subsisted between this defendant and the lady already alluded to, in whose concerns he took so very particular an interest. It would have been enough for the plaintiff to know that the furnishings had been made by the orders of the defendant: and he would not have thought himself entitled to inquire farther into the interest the defendant had in the lady, had he chosen to retrieve his own engagements by paying for the articles which the plaintiff had furnished on his express order. This, to the astonishment of the plaintiff, the defendant had refused to do, and in consequence, the plaintiff had been under the necessity of bringing the present action to recover the amount. It would be for the defendant to account for the nature of the interest he took in this lady, which could entitle him to come to the plaintiff, or any other tradesman, and order goods on his own account for this lady, without being afterwards bound to pay for them, or which could entitle him to return one carpet, which was intended for the lady's bed chamber because it did not suit his taste, and in its place to order a more expensive carpet, still without being bound to pay for it. When gentlemen would indulge themselves in the pleasure of having ladies living in style in the most fashionable streets and places about the metropolis, and having their coach and servants to attend upon them, as if they were persons of the first rank, fortune and consideration, it would be well that they had also the prudence, by satisfying the demands to which they thus subjected themselves, without coming into a Court of Justice, prevented such conduct from becoming a subject of public observation. In the present case, it would be seen that the lady alluded to had been removed to the Rules of the King's Bench Prison, where she still lived in a style, in apartments for which a rent of three guineas per week was paid: and that the furniture which had been ordered by the defendant of the plaintiff, together with other furniture which had formerly belonged to this lady, had been taken in execution and sold, not without the privity of the defendant.

After some witnesses had been examined,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL interfered. It sometimes happened, that they received instructions which were not borne out in proof; and after what had now appeared in this case, he (the Attorney-General) on consulting with his friend Mr. Park, who was with him, for the defendant, thought himself entitled to say that his Lordship and the Jury should have no farther trouble in this case.

The Jury accordingly found for the plaintiff—damages 270*l.*

CONSISTORY COURT, DOCTORS' COMMONS.

MAYHEW *v.* MAYHEW.

This was a proceeding for a divorce brought by Mr. Charles Mayhew, solicitor, of Bartist Chambers, Chancery-lane, against Mrs. Sarah Mayhew, his wife, on the ground of adultery.—It appeared that they were married in 1806, and had three children. In June, 1811, the sea air having been recommended for their youngest child, Mrs. Mayhew went with him to Margate, where she was introduced to a Mr. John Clark, and with whom she soon formed an undue intimacy. In August following, Mrs. Mayhew, unknown to her husband, left Margate for London, and arrived at Dunn's Hotel, Bridge-street, Westminster, where, by appointment, she met Mr. Clark. On the following day, she called upon Mrs. Turner, of Kirby-street, Hatton-Garden, from whence she addressed a letter to her husband, apprising him of her arrival in town, stating that her ill state of health required bodily exercise without much exertion, and she had therefore preferred the journey she had made to a bed of sickness and an apothecary's

bill. She afterwards called upon him, and introduced him to Mr. Clark, as a friend of their mutual friend Mrs. Hemming, and a gentleman from whom she had in consequence received many civilities during her stay at Margate. This was followed by an invitation to dine with Mr. Clark, at his apartments in the Adelphi, which Mr. Mayhew, perfectly unsuspicious of his wife's fidelity, accepted, and accordingly dined there with her. She then proposed returning to Margate on the following Friday; her husband said, if she would make it a week later, he would endeavour to go with her; but upon expressing her anxiety to go at the time stated, in consequence of her wish to relieve Mrs. Hemming from the trouble of taking care of her child, Mr. Mayhew agreed that she should go by Friday's evening coach; and as his professional engagements prevented him from accompanying her so soon, he consigned her to the protection of Mr. Clark for the journey. Instead of proceeding direct for Margate, they stopped at the Duke's Head, Rochester, and passed the night there together, representing themselves as husband and wife, and did not reach Margate until the following day. Mr. Mayhew hearing of this pause in their journey, had his suspicions awakened, and accordingly proceeded to Rochester, where they were fully confirmed: he then went to Margate, and taxed his wife with her infidelity, which she at first denied; but on being confronted with the chambermaid of the Duke's Head, she, with great emotion, acknowledged her guilt. Mr. Mayhew then withdrew himself from her society, and instituted the present suit.

Mrs. Mayhew's Counsel admitted the sufficiency of the proof of adultery to sustain the suit, but contended that Mr. Mayhew had, by consigning his wife upon a night journey to the protection of such a newly formed acquaintance as Mr. Clark, been guilty of gross negligence of his marital duty, and afforded a facility to the commission of the crime charged, from which he was not therefore entitled to the remedy he sought.

Sir Wm. Scott was of opinion that the conduct of Mr. Mayhew was not sufficient to warrant the conclusion that had been drawn from it. He had no suspicion at the time of committing his wife to Mr. Clark's protection, that any undue intimacy subsisted between them, and his doing so was no more than if he had requested any other friend to protect her; he might even have made the same request to an entire stranger, and politeness alone was sufficient to induce compliance. The case was therefore sufficiently proved to entitle the husband to his divorce; and there was nothing in his conduct which should have the effect of depriving him of that remedy.—The divorce was accordingly pronounced for.

DUNDAS v. DUNDAS.

This, also, was a proceeding for a divorce by reason of adultery, at the instance of Robert Dundas, Esq. of St. Marylebone, against Jane Rollo Dundas, his wife.—The parties were married in 1805; they lived together for upwards of five years, but had no children. In the autumn of 1810, when on a visit to Gen. Robertson, in Scotland, they were introduced to Lord Semple, a Scotch nobleman. Mr. Dundas having some estates in Sweden, which required his presence there, embarked for that country in July, 1812, recommending to his wife a residence, in the mean time, with her sister, Lady Douglas, at High Wycomb. During his absence, Lord Semple's visits to Mrs. Dundas became more frequent, and his attentions more particular. Mr. Dundas's return was not expected until the following spring; but having completed the arrangement of his affairs with unlooked-for expedition, he wrote to his wife, apprising her of his intention to return immediately. He set off shortly afterwards, arrived in London before his letter, and took up his abode at Morland's hotel, Dean-street, Soho. Being well known here, the servants informed him, to his surprise, that his wife was then in the house; he declined, however, disturbing her, and ordered a different room, but in the morning inquired the occasion of her coming to town, of which she gave rather a confused account, and appeared much embarrassed. He met Lord Semple in the coffee-room, and observed him walk into Mrs. Dundas's sitting-room; he followed, dissembling his suspicions, and they all entered into conversation; in the course of which, Mrs. Dundas handed a book to his lordship, observing that it was his, and she begged that he would take it home with him. Mr. Dundas observing a paper between the leaves, said, he must insist upon having the book, as there was something in it which he wished to see, and accordingly took it. The concealed paper proved to be a letter from Mrs. Dundas to Lord Semple, filled with expressions of unbounded fondness, and stating her apprehensions that her husband's suspicions were awakened, though she thought it impossible he could know all that had passed between them; notwithstanding which, she said, he had behaved to her with the greatest kindness, declaring he would never injure her, or behave to her with harshness; and it concluded by entreating that his Lordship would come to her directly, that she might repose her grief and anxieties in his bosom, or to that effect. Mr. Dundas reproached his Lordship with the breach of friendship and confidence he had been guilty of, at which he was much abashed, and they then separated. Mrs. Dundas shortly afterwards left the hotel, leaving a letter for her husband, expressive of the utmost contrition for her crime, and deprecating his resentment in the most impassioned terms. He immediately availed himself of legal advice, and broke open a trunk she had left at the hotel, in which he found a plaster cast of his Lordship, and some books with his arms and coronet upon them. Upon inquiry, he learnt that she had been at the hotel eight or nine days, and had been, during that time, constantly visited by Lord Semple. At the Worcester Coffee-house, too, it appeared, that his Lordship had called to order accommodations for a lady, whom he represented as a relative of his, and whom he expected shortly from the country: he looked at several apartments and objected to them, but at length fixed upon a sitting-room and bed-room communicating with each other. Mrs. Dundas took possession of these, and was constantly visited there by his Lordship; but the servants having observed familiarities which left no doubt of adultery having taken place between them, the proprietor requested they would remove, under pretence of the rooms being engaged. They accordingly did so, and were watched to apartments in Cumberland-street, New-road, St. Marylebone, where they afterwards lived together.—No defence being offered, Sir Wm. Scott recapitulated the evidence, and pronounced for the divorce.

STOCK v. STOCK.

This was also a proceeding for a divorce, but upon the double ground of cruelty and adultery, promoted by Matilda, the wife of Mr. James Stock, of Sawbridge, in Hertfordshire, against her said husband.—The parties were married in Dec. 1809, and had two children: in a very short time, however, the husband began to absent himself from the society of his wife under circumstances which gave rise to the charge of adultery. The evidence upon this point detailed the facts very fully. He had also inflicted a violence on her person, the particulars of which are unfit for public detail.

Sir Wm. Scott shortly stated himself to be amply satisfied with the sufficiency of the evidence upon both the charges of cruelty and adultery; and had no hesitation in pronouncing for the divorce prayed by the wife.

POLICE.

UNION-HALL.

Murder at Vauxhall.—Goff, Collingbourne, and another of the Union-hall officers, have apprehended three men on suspicion of being concerned in the murder. The prisoners were all proved to be connected together, and there was a chasm in their account of themselves. After the examination, Mr. Birnie went to Vauxhall, and examined the premises, and every person who could give the least intelligence of the perpetration of the horrid deed.—Two other men have been seized, and were proved to be connected with those in custody at Union-hall. They left London the day after the murder, went to Gravesend, and agreed to enter the East India service, but afterwards altered their minds and returned to London. Some of the men in custody have been seen in the neighbourhood of Vauxhall on the night or morning of the murder.—They are all committed for further examination.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Extract of a letter from Smyrna:—"We have received intelligence of a dreadful calamity having overtaken the largest caravan of the season, on its route from Mecca to Aleppo. The caravan consisted of 2000 souls—merchants and travellers from the Red Sea and Persian Gulph, pilgrims returning from Mecca, and a numerous train of attendants; the whole escorted by 400 military. The march was in three columns. On the 15th of August last, they entered the great Arabian Desert, in which they journied seven days and were already approaching its edge. A few hours more would have placed them beyond danger: but, on the morning of the 23d, just as they had struck their tents, and commenced their march, a wind rose from the north-east and blew with tremendous violence. They increased the rapidity of their marches to escape the threatening danger; but the fatal Kamsin had set in. On a sudden, dense clouds were observed, whose extremity obscured the horizon, and swept the face of the desert. They approached the columns, and obscured the line of march. Both men and beasts, struck by a sense of common danger, utterred loud cries. The next moment they fell beneath its pestiferous influence lifeless corpses. Of 2000 souls composing the caravan, not more than 20 escaped this calamity; they owed their safety to the swiftness of their dromedaries."

On Saturday week, a dreadful fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Jones and Co. timber-merchants, King-street Southwark, which raged with the greatest fury, and, owing to the wind blowing strong from the north-east, and there being a very scanty supply of water, it spread with rapidity, threatening destruction, for some time, to nearly the whole neighbourhood. The principal part of the stock of Messrs. Jones and Co. was consumed. A varnish manufactory also fell a prey to the flames, and 14 adjoining houses, built of *lath and plaister*, were totally destroyed, besides a number of others materially damaged. The distress occasioned by this accident is very great, as a number of the inhabitants have lost nearly the whole of their property. No lives were lost, but one man was dreadfully hurt.—On the same day, a fire broke out in John-street, Chelsea, which threatened destruction to the whole of that newly-erected place; but, by the exertions of the inhabitants, the fire was extinguished, though not before the whole of the house in which it commenced, with all its furniture, was consumed.

Thursday morning, about half-past four o'clock, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Goodman, a tallow-melter, in Chick-lane, near Holborn-hill, which entirely consumed the same, together with three adjoining houses. A valuable horse and some pigs fell a sacrifice to the flames.

HORRID MURDERS.—The *Athlone Herald* says, "On Sunday night last, a party of armed men attacked the house of James Connell, within a mile and a half of Athlone; and, after having shot him through the head, as if their demoniacal appetite were not sufficiently glutted, they dragged him weltering in his blood into the road, and drove an unhandled pitchfork into his heart, and then, by way of *finale* to this horrid tragedy, fired a shot at his unfortunate wife, which entered at one temple and came out at the other, carrying with it both her eyes from the sockets. It is supposed, that the evidence which Connell gave at the late assizes at Mullingar led to the perpetration of this horrid crime."

MARRIAGES.

Tuesday morning, at St. Marylebone church, Mr. Thomas Bland, to Miss Stephens.

On the 14th inst. at Walthamstow, H. Unwin Heathcote, of Shephallbury, Herts, Esq. to Eleanor, third daughter of Sir Robert Wigram, Bart. of Walthamstow-house, Essex.

On Friday week, at St. Luke's Church, Old-street, Mr. C. W. Redd, of Hampstead, to Eliza, eldest daughter of W. Wood, Esq. of Hanger-hill, Middlesex.

Last week, a couple were married in Tynemouth church, the bridegroom aged 80, and the bride 21!

DEATHS.

On Friday week, after a short but severe illness, at his Lordship's house in Grosevenor-place, the lady of the Right Hon. Lord Charles Bentinck.

On Friday last, at Newington, after a lingering illness, Mr. George Reynell Oake.

On Sunday, at Enfield, Thomas Dickason, Esq. in the 85th year.

On Wednesday, in Lower Grosvenor-street, James Hooper, Esq. of Cheyne-walk, Chelsea, aged 73 years.

In Golden-square, on the 10th instant, Mrs. Wallace, relict of John Wallace, Esq. only brother to his Majesty's late Attorney-General.

On the 10th instant, at Brill, Bucks, Laver Oliver, Esq. of Brill House, aged 73.

On the 21st ult. Mr. Robert Mardon, of Moretonhampstead, Devon, in the 86th year of his age. From 50 to 70 he was wont to wear glasses in reading, but during the remainder of his life he could read without them.

At Smethwick, near Birmingham, Elizabeth Chatwin, aged 105 years, and in full possession of her faculties.

On the 23d of Nov. at Weymouth, Mr. Robert Miller, aged 73. He retired to rest the preceding evening in usual health; but was found dead in his bed the next morning.

Lately, in St. Gilesgate, Durham, Mr. Gilbert Garthorne, aged 75. He had retired to rest the preceding evening apparently in good health, and was found dead in his bed the next morning.

On Monday, Henry Godden, Esq. of Bucklersbury.

On Tuesday night, in Pall-mall, aged 86, Chevalier Ruspini, surgeon-dentist to the Prince Regent.

On Thursday, in Welbeck-street, in the 69th year of his age, William Bosville, Esq. of Gunnlewait and Thorpe Hall, in the county of York.

On Thursday, Anne, second daughter of Mr. Wm. Gale, of Bedford-street, Bedford-row.

On Saturday, the 11th instant, after suffering from a lethargy and its effects for more than 12 months, at Aston Parsonage, near Witney, aged 65, Mrs. Ann Bicheno, wife of the Rev. James Bicheno, late of Newbury. The sorrow of relatives (says a Correspondent) is the common tribute which nature pays to the most undistinguished virtues, but, on this occasion, not only the sorrow of relatives and friends, but the gratitude of a thousand youths, who, in the course of the last 25 years, experienced the maternal attentions of this worthy woman, bear testimony to her many superior excellencies; and her kind solicitude for their good will be long held in remembrance.

Lately, at Sutterton, Lincolnshire, aged 75, Mr. Caybourn, whitesmith, cathedral and church bell hanger. He began business with 16*s.* gleaned in Christmas boxes, and left behind him upwards of 20,000*l.*

On the 30th ult. at a very advanced age, Mrs. King, relict of Mr. Thomas King, who for upwards of half a century was one of the chief comic props of the London stage. Mrs. King was formerly celebrated as a dancer at Drury-lane Theatre, but never appeared in the character of an actress.—She was a truly affectionate wife, and a very worthy woman. Her chief support, for many years, was derived from the Theatrical Fund of Drury-lane Theatre; but several friends of her departed husband occasionally contributed to render her situation more comfortable, though the simplicity of her character and the moderation of her desires, almost placed her above the necessity of such assistance. Her remains have been interred in the Church-yard, of St. Paul's Covent-garden, near the grave of her husband.

Lately at Swaffham, of the small-pox, Robert Smith, aged 28. He had been inoculated for the small pox about 17 years ago, had gone regularly through the disease, and had several pustules, many of which had left their marks still visible upon him. It is remarkable that there are in Swaffham two other persons who have had the small pox twice.

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